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BRITISH COLUMBIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

BULLETIN

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Editor: Jean Porter
Victoria Public Library
Victoria, B. C.

B. C. L. A. Officers 1946-1947

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BRITISH COLUMBIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

The 36th annual conference of the British Columbia Library Association commenced at 2 p.m. in Brock Hall, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, B. C.

Mrs. Christine Fox, president, called the meeting to order and explained that in view of the fact that the Canadian Library Association was meeting in Vancouver at the same time, and in order that more members would be able to attend both conferences, the Executive had decided that the annual meeting of the Association this year should take the form of a business meeting only.

In her report Mrs. Fox spoke briefly on the work that had been carried on during the year, mentioning particularly the disappointment which had been felt on account of the completely negative treatment of libraries in the Goldenberg Report. She added that some steps had been taken to keep the matter alive.

Through a series of unforeseen obstacles the incorporation of the Association had been delayed, but it was expected that this would be accomplished shortly.

Committee reports were discussed and accepted.

Members of the Legislative committee reported that they had been readily welcomed and were already making some contributions to their district trades and Labour Councils. In Vancouver, the Public Library delegate was asked to serve on the newly-formed Education Committee. The Victoria Trades and Labour Council, at the suggestion of the librarian

delegates set up a Library Committee and organized a small special collection of books on labour problems and international affairs which is circulating actively. At the same time it is repeatedly emphasized that the best source of literature on labour problems and other subjects of interest to labour is the public library. In this connection the Press Committee of the Vancouver Trades and Labour Council has asked for a book reviewing column, and one of the B.C.L.A. delegates has agreed to look after it.

Provision was made for a committee to be set up to make a survey of library facilities in the hospitals of British Columbia (exclusive of provincial institutions). This committee will be asked to submit recommendations for improvement of library facilities in line with the best modern methods and to suggest ways and means of seeking the introduction of such improvements.

The establishment of an American Library Association office in the west was not endorsed by the meeting. Instead, members went on record as favoring increased travelling facilities for A.L.A. personnel to assist the western division.

The main part of the meeting was devoted to amending the constitution previous to incorporation. Mr. Willard Ireland, Provincial Librarian and Archivist acted as parliamentarian.

In the evening a banquet was held in Brock Hall at which the members of the Canadian Library Association were guests of the British Columbia Library Association. Addresses of welcome were given by Alderman Jones of the city of Vancouver and by Dr. W. Kaye Lamb, Librarian of the University of British Columbia.

Mrs. Fox introduced the speaker of the evening, Mr. Willare Ireland, Provincial Lib-

rarian and Archivist, whose subject was "British Columbia - a study in parallelism". Mr. Ireland spoke of the necessity of national thinking in Canada today, and stressed the fact that although the provinces are different in many ways, their historical background shows many similarities, and that this should make for the unity which is so vital to Canadian progress in the modern world.

PERSONNEL INSTITUTE

Held at the Vancouver Public Library
September 20, 21 and 22, 1947

Under the sponsorship of the
BRITISH COLUMBIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

The library has reached a definitely critical point in its development. The staff problem is one of unprecedented shortages. Rising costs in every direction confront the administrator. Professional librarians find themselves through force of circumstances occasionally performing duties which might profitably and adequately be done by clericals - while frequently the contrary is evident.

So in order to give better service, in order to make the most effective use of available talents, training and energy, in order to obtain greater harmony and understanding between staffs and administrators, and to afford a medium through which all phases of the situation could be presented and discussed, the following Personnel Institute program was sponsored by the British Columbia Library Association.

Leader: Mr. Louis J. Kroeger, Personnel Consultant, San Francisco, California

Discussion Leaders: For the Administration - Mr. E.S. Robinson, Librarian, Public Library, Vancouver
For the Staff - Miss Eleanor Mercer University of British Columbia Library.

Saturday, September 20th.

10.A.M. .Human.Relations.in Personnel Administration.

Mr. Kroeger in his introductory remarks evolved a definition of Personnel Administration as the management of people, which involved human relations, and stressed that knowning what to do isn't enough - there must be a will to do it.

The basic motives of acceptance, adventure, recognition and security were dealt with at some length, as were the steps we should take in our human relations to emphasize these points.

2 P.M.. .Job.Analysis and Classification.of Positions

The one point repeatedly stressed was that we don't classify people. We classify the job, using duties and responsibilities as the only basis, and not including training or background.

Classification, not an end in itself, contributes to other ends. It standardizes pay, and is not a guide for recruiting, training, and evaluation. It does not reorganize or change anything, neither is it concerned with differences between professionals and non-professionals. Nor does it evaluate the quality of the work. Discussion centred on the question "Why classify a job if it shows that position is utterly inadequate?" Basic procedures by which a classification plan is developed were outlined in detail, including the specific questions which should be stressed on the questionnaire form, together with accompanying instructions. Subsequent steps were then given. The meeting concluded with definitions and differences between job evaluation, job classification and job analysis.

8 P.M.. . Salary.Schedule Building.

The first point emphasized was the importance of establishing an internal consistency without

any reference to pay. Advisability of procuring and using statistics illustrative of the general trends of pay in other professions of the community was stressed. Some ten important points were established from group participation as essential to setting the rates of pay. Modern trends of following a salary range, and discarding the flat rate, were advocated.

Sunday, September 21st

2:30 P.M. Conditions of Employment, Work Environment, Welfare and their Effect on Morale

Practically the entire meeting was devoted to evolving some twenty three conditions of employment, with detailed discussion on some of the more debatable issues. Very fervent and specific contributions were obtained from the group.

The necessity of establishing definite machinery for grievances was emphasized again and again, as was the right of the employee to expect some assistance from management in the field of Personnel Counselling.

Responsibility of management in discovering what the employee wants was stressed, as morale is affected by every employment condition. If nothing can be done to remedy the situation, explanations should be in order.

8 P.M. Program for Staff Development, Including Supervision and Leadership

Two aspects, those of staff development in the present job, and staff development for supervision and leadership, were dealt with at length. Importance of explaining the objectives and of having a sympathetic understanding of policies and new techniques are essential to total staff development and to the general raising of the quality of service.

Responsibility to the profession was underlined sharply in the matter of training for leadership. Another institution may benefit, but the profession gains. Advisability of bringing in new blood was discussed, as was the element of competition.

The concept of a supervisor was given as one who leads, who is trained on procedures and the proper attitudes of supervision, who shows the employee how to do a job but does not do it, and who is willing to delegate responsibility to other people.

Mechanics of staff development included broadly such topics as analysis of content of all jobs, classification plan of jobs which shows relations, and a line of promotion which establishes priority. Specifically, organized discussion, staff meetings, house organs, job rotation, job coaching on the job and a few other mediums, were cited.

Monday, September 22nd.

10 A.M. Selecting and Retaining Capable Employees.

The greater part of this meeting was spent on the problem of "Selecting", very little time remaining for discussion of the "Retaining" aspect. Preliminary steps to selection included defining the job (Classification process), the conditions of employment, and the qualifications we seek. The broad term 'Selection' was then broken down to include Recruiting, Placement, Induction or Orientation, and the Working Test or Probation.

Firing an employee was another point to receive attention, the solution offered being to hire the person who won't need it. Another suggestion was to eliminate the unqualified person during the probation period if possible - and you'll retain the qualified.

2 P.M. Role of Personnel Management in Administration

The key note to Personnel Staff success was the word 'Service', stressed and underlined. The earmarks of a good program were cited as every job clearly defined, every job filled by a qualified and satisfied employee and record keeping reduced to a simple and subordinate degree. The supervisory staff in particular should be well trained in its role.

A further discussion of merit rating then followed.

6:30 P.M. Buffet supper in the Staff room of the Public Library, followed by

8:30 P.M. A panel discussion on Employee, Trustee and Executive Participation in Management

Following a brief introduction by Mr. Kroeger, in which he re-iterated a few of the points already made, and elaborated on the functions of a Board, the Panel participants and the Audience settled down to a thoroughly rousing discussion of two main issues. These were: (1) Should or should not, the librarian attend Board meetings, and (2) Should a staff member be at the Board meetings and if so, have a watching brief or participate? No doubt whatever remained as to the majority opinion on question (1), some highly descriptive adjectives being introduced into the proceedings at the mere possibility of the Librarian being excluded. Question (2) occupied so much time, various members becoming so enthusiastic in their various opinions, that no time remained for the many issues members had intended to introduce. The only solution would be another panel.

The members of the panel were as follows:

Moderator: Mr. Louis J. Kroeger

Trustee: Mr. G. Stanley Miller, Chairman, Library Board, Vancouver Public Library.

Mrs. Godson, Chairman, Library Board, Victoria Public Library

Executive: Miss Margaret J. Clay, Librarian, Public Library, Victoria, B.C.
Dr. W. Kaye Lamb, Librarian, University of British Columbia

Employee: Mrs. Elizabeth Musto, Vancouver Public Library
Miss Amy Hutcheson, New Westminister Public Library

Staff Organizations:
Miss Kathleen MacKenzie, Vancouver Public Library
Miss Mary Rendell, University of British Columbia Library

The three day Session thus adjourned. Little doubt was expressed as to the immediate success of this type of Institute, but the ultomate success remains in the future, with the degree to which Libraries and Librarians apply the principles under discussion.

C O M M I T T E E S

Following are the personnel and terms of reference of the B.C.L.A. Committees for 1947-48.

CONSTITUTION Miss Holmes, Chairman, Mrs. Nina Napier, Miss Hope Hodges. The committee shall prepare such amendments as may be necessary to the Constitution to fulfil the requirements for a notice of motion as provided in clause No. 55 of the Constitution.

EMPLOYMENT Miss Hincks
The committee shall keep on file a record of all vacancies throughout the province, and make such information available to libraries and librarians on request.

NOTE: The Executive would like to emphasize the responsibility of individual libraries to keep the chairman of this committee informed of vacancies on their staffs.

FEES Mr. Robinson, Chairman, Mr. Ireland, Miss Batcheler, Mr. Walter Lanning, Miss Eleanor Mercer. In view of the discussion regarding fees which arose at the annual meeting, June 23rd, 1947, it is requested that:

(1) The Fees Committee should
  (a) Make a study of the schedule of fees in the light of the said discussion.
  (b) Make a study of the possibility of coordinating library association fees.

(2) If arising from these terms of reference amendments to the Constitution become necessary, the report of the committee be made available to the Executive on or before February 28, 1948.

LABOUR RELATIONS Mrs. Fox, Chairman, Miss Henderson, Mr. Morison, Miss Hotson, Miss Isabelle Pike. The Committee shall seek to maintain and strengthen the existing affiliation of their Association with organized labor, and shall act as the official delegates to the appropriate Trades and Labor councils.

LEGISLATION Mr. Morison, Chairman, Mr. J.G. Chope, Miss Jean Fannin, Miss Isabel Pike

The committee shall:

(a) Recommend to the appropriate authority legislation for the advancement of library affairs throughout the Province.
(b) Keep a file of any legislation passed throughout the year relative to library matters.
(c) Act as a source of information for any interested bodies seeking information on legislation affecting library matters.

MEMBERSHIP Miss Batcheler, Chairman

The committee shall:

(a) Seek to obtain the active participation of all librarians within the Province in this Association.
(b) Keep a card index record of all members of this Association.

PUBLIC RELATIONS Miss Clay, Chairman
The committee shall:

(a) Gather information concerning the public relations activities of individual libraries.
(b) Make recommendations to the Executive on matters pertaining to Public Relations.
(c) Undertake such publicity as the Executive may direct.

SCHOLARSHIP Miss Anne Smith, Chairman, Dr. Lamb, Miss Clay, Mr. Ireland

The committee shall investigate ways and means of securing financial assistance for training in librarianship.

SALARIES STAFF AND TENURE	Mrs. Brunette, Chairman, Mr. Ireland, Miss Mary Rendell, Miss Hope Hodges, Miss Amy Hutcheson

The Committee shall:

(a) Generally be responsible for the collection of all statistics relating to Salary, Staff and Tenure.

(b) Prepare for publication a detailed report embodying these statistics by November 1st and a revision of the same by April 1st.

(c) Present for approval at the next annual meeting amendments necessary to bring up to date the salary standards published in the Report by the Committee on Salaries, Staff and Tenure adopted in 1945.

SCHOLEFIELD COMMEMORATION COMMITTEE	Miss Wolfender, Chairman, Miss Batcheler, Mrs. Isabel Robinson

Terms of Reference are as embodied in the minutes of the Annual Meeting, June 23rd, 1947.

Advisability of appointing next years' Chairmen from within the members of these committees was also recommended.

P.N.L.A. REPRESENTATIVE	Miss Muriel Laing.

NEWS OF LIBRARIES

NEW WESTMINSTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Library will sponsor a "Great Books" discussion group this autumn commencing October 28th. The group will meet every alternate Tuesday at 8 P.M. in the Reference Room.

The Boys' and Girls' Department now has a radio program broadcast directly from the Library over C.K.N.W. Saturday morning at 11:45. Mr. Gordon Reid interviews boys and girls concerning their books and hobbies and Miss Amy Hutcheson reviews briefly three new books each week.

During the summer our boys and girls enjoyed an interesting "Vacation Reading Club" project, which took the form of a journey to Europe via books. Each contestant was required to read ten books, one of which had to be concerned with the European country chosen as a destination. A certificate was awarded each successful participant and in lieu of the usual book prize for the library of the winning school, we used the money donated by the library and interested patrons to fill twenty-one bags with crayons, pencils, scribblers etc. for distribution in Europe. A letter accompanied each bag. At the autumn performance of "Aladdin and the Lamp" by the Puppet Club, the certificates were awarded and the bags handed over to Mrs. Margaret Donald, of the Unitarian Service Committee of Canada, under whose auspices relief parcels of this nature may be despatched.

OKANAGAN UNION LIBRARY

Since last year the Okanagan Union Library has increased its number of branches and school collections from 69 to 129.

Early this spring we acquired a new and much needed Library van - a Chev. panel delivery.

Our newest big branch, Penticton, is doing very well, and continues to show an ever increasing monthly circulation under the capable direction of Mrs. V.A. Smith, formerly of the Aberdeen Public Library.

Mrs. Muriel Ffoulkes, Chief Librarian, Miss Meg Gore, First Assistant, and Mr. O.L. Jones, Chairman of the Library Board, attended the B.C.L.A. convention in Vancouver. Mrs. Ffoulkes was also present at the B.C. Personnel Institute sponsored by the B.C.L.A.

PRINCE RUPERT PUBLIC LIBRARY — Miss Olive Van Cooten, Librarian

The Prince Rupert Public Library has been in its new home in the Civic Centre a year this October and the move has proved advantageous in every respect, as the surroundings are beautiful and much more shelving is provided. The only drawback in our present surroundings was inadequate lighting, which we overcame by installing fluorescent lights.

Our circulation (so far this year) shows an increase, so it is only fair to assume that our move is looked upon favourably by the citizens generally.

This past summer we had some interesting chats with librarians making the Northern trip, who came from different parts of the United States and Eastern Canada; some of whom had attended the Library Conventions. It was interesting to receive news of the Conventions, as we have never been in a position to attend, although it is to be hoped wemight have the opportunity next time.

PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMISSION — The North-Central Branch celebrated its 16th year of operation with the official opening, on September 17th, of its new $30,000 building in Prince George. The Branch now has probably the best functional building for public library purposes anywhere in British Columbia.

This will make possible the extension of important school and public library services which were previously hampered by lack of adequate quarters. The Superintendent, representing the Commission and the Department of Education, acted as chairman at a brief ceremony which was broadcast over the local radio station, CKPG. The building was officially opened, on behalf of the Provincial Government, by the local member of the legislature, Mr. John McInnes.

Steady progress is reported from the Peace River Branch, where Miss Strachan has recently been succeeded by Miss Edith Sturdy as Branch Librarian. Libraries have now been supplied to all the schools of the District except in Dawson Creek itself. A start has been made in community travelling library service, in which wide interest has been aroused. It is hoped that the recently formed Dawson Creek Public Library Association will soon commence operations, with financial assistance from the Public Library Commission.

Mr. Lidster recently paid an official visit to the Okanagan where he reports good progress in the consolidation of the very considerable new territory added to the Union Library district this year. Penticton Branch has rapidly taken the lead in book circulation and has been well received by the community at large. Considerable interest is being shown in Armstrong, Enderby and Revelstoke on the question of joining the union library district.

The most serious union library problem of the moment is in Vancouver Island Union Library District, where the North Cowichan Municipal Council has questioned the validity of the "Public Libraries Act" in respect of taxation. The matter is in the hands of the Attorney-General's Department. In the meantime the library's Duncan Branch is providing a much appreciated service to residents of that city and of North Cowichan. Good progress has been made in the consolidation of new library territory

elsewhere, which, as in the Okanagan, amounts to an 80% addition to its library district.

The Commission has again been approached by interested people in Ladner in the matter of public library service which should logically be provided through Fraser Valley Union Library.

Favorable response to the idea of union library organization in the East Kootenay region was reported by the Superintendent on an inspection trip to the south-eastern part of the Province in May. It is felt, however, that specific recommendations in this regard should be held in abeyance until the Provincial Government has assumed a materially increased financial responsibility for the initiation and maintenance of this form of library service.

There is also evidence of awakened library interest in West Kootehay. Castlegar Public Library Association was incorporated in June and is about to start operations, with financial assistance from the Public Library Commission. Encouraging reports are received of public library plans for Trail.

Progress continues to be made in library service for Provincial institutions. The whole question is now under review in connection with a recommendation for a further expansion of library organization for the gaols. More books for the Provincial Home at Kamloops were recently selected and purchased by the Commission at the request and expense of the Provincial Secretary's Department

The Commission's own library services continue to expand. Summer reading by juvenile members of the Open Shelf was considerably increased by special publicity sent out by Mrs. Ellis, Children's Librarian. Circulation in July and August was 1,050 higher than during the same period last year.

The Civil Service Commission has recently up-graded the salaries of librarians employed in the Service. Increases, including the current cost-of-living bonus, are as follows:-

Senior Library Assistant: from $1,813.32 to $2,113.32
Intermediate Library Assistant (New classification): $1,993.32
Junior Library Assistant: from $1,753.32 to $1,813.32
Sub-Junior Library Assistant: From $1,489.20 to $1,513.05
Branch Librarian remains at $2,293.32

In the North-Central District there is an additional living allowance of $120 per year; in the Peace River District, $240.

VANCOUVER PUBLIC LIBRARY

It was reported at the British Columbia Library Association meeting that the Vancouver Public Library Staff Association is establishing a bursary with a minimum of $150.00

VICTORIA PUBLIC LIBRARY

In memory of a friend who died recently, a member of the public donated a book to the Library, instead of sending flowers to the funeral. The Library has received a display of books and pamphlets from the Canadian Institute of International Affairs.

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY (U.B.C.)

The staff of the Library has been expanding very rapidly lately and a great many additions and a few changes have been made since the last issue of the Bulletin appeared.

The Reference Department suffered a grievous loss in the late Spring when Mrs. Dorothy Chatwin, whose husband had been transferred to Ottawa, resigned from the staff to join him there.

In addition to helping to carry on the routine work of the Department, Mrs. Chatwin virtually organized the whole system upon which the Library's very large collection of Government documents is filed, and the contribution she made to the Department will not soon be forgotten.

Mrs. Isabel Wells (the former Isabel Hoggan) resigned from the staff in the middle of June, shortly after her marriage. She and her husband are now in Pullman, Washington, where Mr. Wells is attending the State College of Washington.

Five appointments have been made to the professional staff, four of them in the Reference Department. Miss Doreen Fraser came to the Library from Prince George where, for a year, she had been assisting Miss Sargent in the North Central Branch of the Public Library Commission, while Miss Isabel Abernethy and Miss Isabel McDonald were appointed following their graduation from the University of Toronto Library School. Mr. Samuel Rothstein, the fourth appointee, attended the University of California Library School last year. Miss Helen Walsh, another 1947 Toronto Library School graduate, joined the Periodicals Department in July.

Miss Ethel Fugler, who for some years had been a member of the staff of the Registrar, moved to the Library in June to become Dr. Lamb's personal secretary.

Six sub-professionals joined the staff during the summer: Miss Lily Kristjanson, Miss Dorothy Barritt and Miss Muriel Martinson in the Reference Department; Miss Betty Scott in the Cataloguing Department; and Miss Lois Crook and Mrs. Harold Hunter in the Circulation Department.

Two transfers became effective on September 1st: Miss Betty Henderson moved from the Reference Department back to her old post in the Cataloguing Department, while Miss Margaret Howieson moved from the Cataloguing Department to the Circulation Department.

Work on the addition to the Library building is now progressing rapidly and at the end of September the concrete walls of the top storey were being poured and work was commencing on the roof. The whole interior should be protected from the weather within another month, and detailed finishing can then proceed without delay. Stack-room equipment may begin to arrive by the end of November and actual erection of uprights and shelving is scheduled to commence in January. The addition should be substantially complete by the end of the University term. Between the end of term and Summer School, it is hoped that most of the alterations that are to be made in the existing building will be completed. The immense task of moving the book stock will commence in the late Spring, and it is hoped that all will be ship-shape by the time the University re-opens in September, 1948.

P E R S O N A L S

ABBOTT: Miss Pauline Abbott resigned her position in the Boys' and Girls' Department of the Victoria Public Library to accept a position as teacher-librarian in Kimberley.

ALLBUTT: Miss Enid Allbutt has left the Okanagan Union Library and returned to the Toronto Public Library.

ALLDRITT: Miss Marjorie Alldritt has left the Victoria Public Library to return to U.B.C. to study for her B.A. degree.

COOK: Miss Janet M. Cook, formerly of Hanna, Alberta, has recently joined the Victoria staff of the Public Library Commission. Miss Cook served during the war in the C.W.A.C.

DRYBOROUGH: Miss Nora Dryborough, after receiving her B.A. degree from U.B.C. this April, joined the staff of the Victoria Public Library in September.

GOULD: Mrs. Edith Gould, in addition to holding the position of librarian for the tuberculous in Vernon Villa and the Royal Jubilee Hospital, has accepted the post of librarian for the Victoria Medical Library.

HALL: Miss Doris Hall, of Regina, has joined the staff of the Okanagan Union Library in Kelowna.

KIRCHNER: Miss Joy Kirchner, a member of the Victoria Public Library Staff, resigned in August to marry Mr. Gordon Stamford of Victoria.

PAUL: Miss Elizabeth Paul resigned from the staff of the Victoria Public Library this summer, and is now visiting relations and friends in England and Scotland.

PEPPER: Miss Peggy Pepper of Vancouver, has joined the staff of the Okanagan Union Library.

STIELL: Miss Nancy Stiell, a former member of the Okanagan Union Library has returned to the staff there.

STURDY: Miss Edith Sturdy, formerly of the Vancouver Public Library, has recently assumed the duties of Branch Librarian in charge of the Peace River Branch of the Public Library Commission, Dawson Creek.

C E R T I F I C A T I O N

At the request of the examiners for Certification of Librarians, the Department of Education is inviting a number of librarians to meet with the Examiners to consider the Regulations for Certification in the light of experience during the three years they have been in force.

The meeting with these consultants will not be held until late in November, thus permitting librarians ample time to submit criticisms or suggestions for consideration at that time. Communications should be addressed to: The Registrar, Department of Education, Parliament Buildings, Victoria.

THE DOMINION-PROVINCIAL YOUTH TRAINING BURSARIES AND PROVINCIAL LOAN FUND

It is the desire of the Dominion and Provincial Governments that no student of ability shall through lack of funds be denied the opportunity to continue his or her education beyond the level of the secondary school.

A sum of money has been set aside to aid University students who can offer proof of scholastic ability and financial need. This assistance is available to regular students in any year and any faculty. Students will receive 60 per cent of the total assistance as a bursary and 40 per cent as a loan. The loan is repayable commencing one year after the applicant enters gainful employment, and will not bear interest until that time.

Application forms may be obtained from the Department of Education, Technical Education Branch, Victoria, B. C., and must be returned by August 15th, 1947.

Will those interested in attending Library School please note that they are eligible for assistance under the terms of this fund. Contrary to the general impression the assistance granted is not confined to undergraduates; and students proceeding to certain fields of graduate work, facilities for which are not available in B.C. -- such as Library School -- are eligible for bursaries.

CANADIAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

The 1948 conference of the Canadian Library Association - Association canadienne des Bibliotheques - will be held June 7th, 8th and 9th in Ottawa. Conference Headquarters will be the Chateau Laurier and there will be a public dinner on the evening of June 7th in the Ball Room of the Chateau.

The Association has obtained Priorities for hotel accomodation for these dates at both the Chateau Laurier and the Lord Elgin Hotel on the understanding that individual delegates make their own reservations directly with the hotels, well in advance. This procedure will also considerably lighten the work of the Ottawa committees. The number of rooms is limited, and those who will be requiring hotel accomodation are advised to make their reservations as soon as possible.

Any suggestions as to the programme and topics to be discussed will be welcomed by the Executive Secretary.

YOUNG READERS' CHOICE AWARD, 1947

The eighth annual Young Readers' Choice Award went to Robert McCloskey for his Homer Price (Viking, 1943). The presentation of the illuminated parchment scroll was made on September 5, 1947, when the Children's and School Librarians' sections of the Pacific Northwest Library Association held their joint meeting in Seattle, Washington. The Award scroll read : "The boys and girls of the Pacific Northwest hereby express their appreciation to Mr. Robert McCloskey for the pleasure he has given them in his 'Homer Price', the Young Readers' Choice for 1947." The selection this year was made from books published in 1943-44.

The Young Readers' Choice Award is made yearly through the generosity of the late Harry Hartman, bookseller, of Seattle, and is the spontaneous, wholehearted choice of the boys and girls of the Pacific Northwest, comprising British Columbia, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington. The runners-up were J. W. Lippincott - Wilderness Champion (Lippincott, 1944); L.I. Wilder - These Happy Golden Years (Harper, 1943); P. L. Travors Mary Poppins opens the door (Reymal, 1943); Robert Lawson - Rabbit Hill (Viking, 1944); and M. E. Neikirk - All about Oscar (Winston, 1943).